

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 10-14, and 16-43 were examined. Claims 30-43 are allowed. Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 10-14, 16-20, and 29 were rejected. Claims 21-28 were indicated as being allowable, but were objected to as being dependent on a rejected claim.

Herein, claims 6 and 24 are cancelled. Claims 1, 12, 22, 23, and 27 are amended. Claims 44-46 are added.

Reconsideration is requested in view of the amendments above and the remarks that follow.

1. Interview Summary

An interview was held at the undersigned's request between the undersigned and Examiner Luu on June 20, 2003. The rejection of claims 1 and 12 over U.S. Patent 5,905,299 to Lecap was discussed. Regarding claim 1, the Examiner stated that he was reading leads 602 of Lecap's Figure 6 as the "member" of claim 1. The undersigned stated that he would amend claim 1 to include a feature of one of the allowable dependent claims. Regarding claim 12, the undersigned noted that Lecap did not show leads that "increase in width." The Examiner agreed, and stated that the rejection over Lecap was overcome. However, the Examiner cited a new reference, U.S. Patent 4,400,714 to Brown, as showing leads 58, and indicated that the Brown reference could conceivably be cited in a next action if claim 12 was not amended. The undersigned suggested that claim 12 might be amended to have leads with a width that "gradually" increases, and the Examiner agreed that Brown did not show such a feature. This concluded the interview.

2. Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 is amended to include features of claim 24, which the Examiner indicated was allowable. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 1 and its dependent claims are allowable.

Claim 12 is amended to include leads that "gradually increase in width as those leads extend from the frame toward the central region." Neither LeCap nor Brown show this feature.

Claims 22 and 23 are amended to be consistent with amended claim 1. There is no change in scope.

Claim 27 is amended to clarify the claim. There is no change in scope.

3. New Claims

New claims 44-45 are added. They are similar to existing claims. No new matter is added.

CONCLUSION

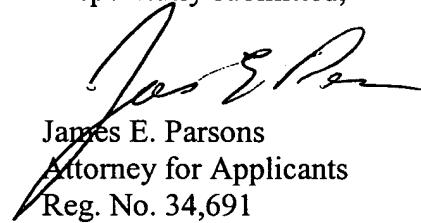
In summary, the claims are submitted to be allowable. Please direct questions or comments to the undersigned at 408 451-5906.

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO:

EV 338 032 465 US

Customer No. 022888

Respectfully submitted,


James E. Parsons
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 34,691